

Next morning the weather, though no longer  
thundery, was still unsettled, and the  
north wind  
continued to sweep the plateau fiercely.

Their first business was to see whether  
the sea-  
weeds piled up along the bastion had  
been spared  
by the fire. They had been, partially.  
The men  
brought back in their arms enough to last  
for a week,  
exclusive of what the tides would bring  
up every  
day.

While the wind continued to blow from  
the north  
these floating masses would, of course,  
be carried  
to sea.

But as soon as it veered round to the  
south again,  
the harvest could be gathered more  
abundantly.

Nevertheless, Captain Gould pointed  
out that  
some precautions would have to be  
taken for the  
future,

"Quite right, captain,"<sup>35</sup> John Block  
answered,  
"it would be a good plan to put what is  
left of the  
sea-weed under cover, in case we have  
to winter  
here."

"Why not store it in the second cave  
that we  
have just discovered ?" Fritz  
suggested.

That seemed to be expressly  
indicated, and that  
day, before noon, Fritz resolved to go  
back into  
the cave, in order to examine its nature  
and arrange-

ments inside. Provided with a candle,  
he crept  
through the narrow opening  
communicating between  
the two caves\* Who could say if the  
second otie